"It All Comes Out in the Wash!"

(I Corinthians 6:9 - 11)

Text Verse:

"And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."

(I Corinthians 6:11)

A sobering declaration is issued by the Apostle Paul in the beginning of verse nine. There is no doubt that these words are inspired by the Holy Spirit of God. The declaration is followed by the sinner's description in the remainder of verses nine and ten. The Apostle lists a catalogue of the vilest sinners breathing human air. The roll call of verses nine and ten reads more like a description of the inmates of a federal penitentiary than the description of the members of a local church. The severe consequence for those in this crowd is their exclusion from inheriting the kingdom of God.

Thank God that the Bible does not end with verse ten of our text! The Scriptures offer hope for sinners in verse eleven. The sobering declaration and the sinner's description is followed by the sanctifying distinction. The words, "such were some of you," acknowledge the transformation that occurs in a sinner's life when Jesus Christ comes on the scene. Christ has the power to rescue the sinner from the gutter and redeem them into His grace!

The hope that is available for the vilest sinners is made possible by the blood of Jesus Christ. The word, washed, in verse eleven speaks boldly of the cleansing that is experienced by the sinner at the moment of the
new birth. All the filthy sins and iniquities are washed clean by the precious blood. It all comes out in the wash!

Let us exalt the life-changing salvation that was bought and paid for on Calvary. Every blessing the saints enjoy in Christ today is free, thanks to Calvary. God's people may not be all that they should be or all that they want to be, but thank God, they are not what they used to be! All who have experienced the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ can testify to the greatness of salvation.

I. Salvation is a CHANGED Life!

"And such were some of you"

(I Corinthians 6:11)

*The Apostle Paul acknowledges what the saints in Corinth used to be. He reminds them of the gutter of sin that they used to live in. A walk down memory lane would do God's people some good. Hopefully, it would increase our appreciation for the wonderful change that Christ has wrought in our lives!

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

(II Corinthians 5:17)

A. The Change is DRAMATIC!

1. New Life
2. New Liberty
3. New Lord

B. The Change is DIVINE!

The change that the Scriptures speak of is a work of God. It is not the reformation or religious effort of man. No man has the power to change his own heart or the heart of any other sinner. Programs, preachers, and politicians are helpless when it comes to making an inner change in someone's life. However, where programs fail, God prevails. Jesus
Christ has the power to transform the vilest sinners on the face of this earth!

Salvation is nothing less than a miracle. While some liberals teach that God is no longer in the business of working miracles, Jesus Christ is performing the greatest miracles ever known to man, the salvation of hopeless sinners. The change that takes place in the sinner's heart and life is a divine miracle of love and grace!

II. Salvation is a CLEANSED Life!

"but ye are washed"

(I Corinthians 6:11)

Salvation not only produces a changed life, but also a cleansed life. This cleansing is described in our text by the word, washed. When the Bible speaks of being washed, it refers to the fact that all of our sins have been washed away. The blood of Jesus Christ has washed the sinner completely from all their sins!

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."

(Titus 3:5)

"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood."

(Revelation 1:5)

There is absolute, amazing, availing power in the blood of Jesus Christ. His blood is so powerful that it can erase the very stain of sin. The Bible tells us that "the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." All means all and that is all that all means! There is no sin too filthy for the blood of Jesus to cleanse.

A. Past Sins
The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all past sins. The devil and his followers may be quick to bring up our past, but they have no power or authority to place them on our account again. The blood of Jesus Christ has erased our sins. God has chosen to remember no more those sins that are washed away by the blood of His Son!

"...for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

(Jeremiah 31:34)

"And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."

(Hebrews 10:17)

B. Present Sins

The blood of Jesus Christ does not stop with the cleansing of our past sins. It is sufficient to cleanse the sins that we commit on a daily basis. The teaching that the blood of Christ only covers the sins committed before a person's conversion is blasphemy to the Holy Scriptures. All of our sins were in future tense when the Lord Jesus died upon Calvary. The salvation that was bought by His blood on that day made provision to wash away all the sins that His people would ever commit. Without this payment, our daily sins would sentence us straight to Hell. Thank God that the blood of His Son paid it all!

Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Lyrics: Elvina M. Hall, 1865

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be like crimson, they shall be as wool."

(Isaiah 1:18)
*The liberals may whitewash sin, but the Lord washes sin white!

C. Possible Sins

*It is not possible for a born-again believer to commit a sin that the blood of Jesus does not cleanse. There is no such thing as an "unforgivable sin" upon the soul of one of God's children. Though the sins committed on earth have an effect on their flesh, no sin can destroy the redemptive work of Christ performed on their eternal soul!

- The blood of Jesus is EXCEPTIONAL!
- The blood of Jesus is EFFECTUAL!
- The blood of Jesus is ESSENTIAL!

"...and without shedding of blood is no remission."

(Hebrews 9:22)

*The blood of Jesus Christ is the only remedy that God has provided for the forgiveness of sin. Nothing else will work. Every soul who will be present in God's Heaven will be there as a result of the pure, perfect, powerful blood of Jesus Christ. Thank God that His blood produces a cleansed life!

III. Salvation is a CONSECRATED Life!

"but ye are sanctified"

(I Corinthians 6:11)

*The word "sanctified" simply speaks of that which God has set apart for Himself. The principle of sanctification can be seen back in the Book of Genesis. The Bible says that God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it" (Genesis 2:3). The first six days were designated as days of work. The seventh day was sanctified as a day of rest. This means that God set the seventh day apart, to be different from the other days. The same truth applies to God's redeemed people. The Lord has sanctified us for His purpose and has made us different from the rest of this world!

A. We are God's People!
"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

(I Peter 2:9 - 10)

B. We are God's Property!

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

(I Corinthians 6:20)

God's people are God's property. He has placed His Spirit within us and we belong to Him. The Lord has sanctified us for His glory and we should strive to bring glory to His Name!

IV. Salvation is a CREDITED Life!

"but ye are justified"

(I Corinthians 6:11)

A. The Meaning of Justification

*Justification is one of the great truths surrounding salvation. It is an act of God whereby He declares righteous the redeemed sinner. The lost sinner has no righteousness worthy of pleasing God. The best that man can do falls miserably short of the glory of God. However, God has credited to the account of His people the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ. God sees His people justified, as He looks through the righteousness of His Son!

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

(Romans 3:23 - 24)

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we
might be made the righteousness of God in him."

(II Corinthians 5:21)

B. The **Method** of Justification

"...but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."

(I Corinthians 6:11)

"Our justification and sanctification are accomplished through the **Son of God** and His **triumphant name** and through the **Spirit of God** and His **transforming nature**. It is not by virtue of our own resolve and effort that we become new creatures in Christ. Salvation is **imputed** to us through the saving name of the Lord Jesus. It is **implemented** in us by the indwelling Holy Spirit."

(J. Phillips)

All that God does for His people He does for Jesus' sake! None of us are worthy to be washed, sanctified, and justified. These blessings are given to us **in** Jesus Christ. There is nothing in the world greater than knowing that **all** of our sins have been **washed** away by His saving blood.

*IT ALL COMES OUT IN THE WASH!*

Evangelist Jeremiah Dixon

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